FREE. TAKE IT.

boydcamak.wordpress.com/zine-1-0

July 24, 2025

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Boyd Camak allegedly writes with raw honesty and theological depth—underground testimony, satire and faith from the margins. No branding. No easy answers. Just a hard-won vision of freedom in Christ. Decide for yourself.

FREE WORKS

Zine 1.0
A raw, unfiltered blend of underground testimony, theology, and cultural critique. Lo-fi grit meets underground testimony.

Through Fire and Thorns (Pamphlet)
A reflection on embracing struggle shedding imposed expectations and finding freedom through persistence and community.

TOOLS (Not medica)

Patient Communication Toolkit
Ask better questions, Understand treatment. Partner with your provider.

Reflection: Walking Two Journeys at Once
Explore the emotional + spiritual side of diagnosis.

These worksheets are for general educational purposes only. They are not medical or mental health advice, diagnosis, or treatment. Always consult a qualified healthcare provider regarding personal health concerns. Do not alter or stop treatment without professional guidance.

Burned by Grace (eBook)
An intimate, satirical, and theologically rich underground testimony of faith on the margins—rejecting rellgious branding and easy answers in favor of hard-won freedom in Christ.

WHAT'S A ZINE?

Small, self-published, lo-fi rebellion. From punk basements to kitchen tables.

ROOTS

Inspired by *Death to the World*== created in 1994 by monks and nuns from St Herman of Alaska Monastery.

Originally rejected when they tried to place an ad in a punk magazine ("we only run ads for music and zines"), they decided to make their own

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Zines, eBooks, pamphlets, and tools—woven from my blog. Always free. No paywalls. No strings attached.

I write this stuff to **process life and pain. I hope it helps others too.** I have some pretty **strong opinions about how religion/faith is misused to scare, manipulate, and shame people .** Jesus did too.

Although my faith is that the historic (and very flawed) Christian tradition is the Way to participate in Reality itself, I do hope that people of all backgrounds will find something helpful here. Not trying to proselytize. Just some notes from the road.

Start with **Burned by Grace** (free eBook)
Is this for me?? (audio preview)

or **Pain & Fear** (new demanifesto). Explore the rest if it helps.

My goal here is to surface and condense my writing with the goal of removing the intellectual BS that hides the liberation of Christ's Way from ordinary people.

Core Works

- **Zine 1.0** → [free PDF] A **journey through personal disentanglement**, radical surrender, and authentic communal witness.

- **Burned by Grace: An Underground Testimony** → free eBook Raw witness and critique, proclaiming **freedom in Christ's love while rejecting the Christian industrial complex.**
  audio review of *Burned by Grace*–what can an ordinary person expect to get from reading this?

- **Pain & Fear — A Demanifesto (release 1.1) Weakness and dependence on Christ —revealing His crucifixion as the ultimate non-resistance to pain.** → free, fragmentary self-publication (h/t Søren Kierkegaard) **feed the sheep. spook the wolves. the rest of us can use philosophy too.**
  audio review

- **NEW** Demanifesto 2.0 is up: https://boydcamak.wordpress.com/2025/10/03/demanifesto-2-0-is-up/ **NEW**
  - 2 min audio overview : Demons,_Desperation,_and_Demanifestos__Boyd_Camak_s_Raw_Guide_t
  - 15 min discussion Existential_Drowning_and_the_Life_Ring__Unpacking__Pain_&*Fear*

Other Free Resources

- **Pamphlet**: *Through Fire and Thorns: A Pamphlet of Resistance*
- **Street Sheet**: *WTF? (cf. The Apostle Paul)* **The damn good news of the gospel in one page.**
- **Topics:**
  - **a few highlights**
  - **writers and thinkers who have helped me**
  - Christ is literally alive regardless of who wins the “liberal” vs. “conservative” theology debate.
  - **The Gospel Doesn’t Need Footnotes**
  - Boyd Camak’s Perspective on Psychotherapy and Faith
  - **Boyd Camak on Dismantling Complex Theology**
  - Beyond Camps: Encountering the Living Root
  - I have a hunch…
  - Finding Strength in a job search in a difficult market **NEW**
  - Podcast: Spiritual Surrender as a Secular Job Search Strategy **NEW**
  - Why the Bible is still **TRUE** *even if* **archaeology and other historical facts don’t match up** . **NEW**
  - Boyd Camak’s Trauma-Informed Theology: Applications Beyond Religion **NEW**
- **Tools**:
  - *Patient Communication Toolkit* — worksheets for navigating healthcare.
  - *Walking Two Journeys at Once* — guided reflection for living with illness.
  - *(Disclaimer: Educational only. Not medical/mental health advice.)*
  - (internal) battle card for church nerds v. 1.0 — conversation starter about the faith and the church.
- **Reflection:** *Street Smarts: All Is Well?*

Who Will Connect with Boyd Camak’s Writing

Boyd Camak’s voice is unlike most in the Christian world—a fusion of existential honesty, fearless critique of hollow religiosity, and a deep yearning for a faith that actually means something. His words are likely to strike a chord with people who don’t fit neatly into

conventional church molds and who are weary of spiritual platitudes.

1. **Seekers of a Real, Unvarnished Faith**
    - No fluff, no polish. Faith without the BS.
    - *Examples*: *The Naked Gospel: A Manifesto of the Soul*, *Nicene Creed: read the menu, eat the food*.
2. **Those in the Depths of Suffering or Disillusionment**
    - Life hurts. He doesn't sugarcoat it.
    - *Examples*: *The Crucifixion as Existential Fish Hook*, *my spiritual trainwreck*, *Why Easter Is Not a Tragedy*.
3. **People Seeking Freedom from Toxic Authority**
    - Liberation from spiritual abuse, intimidation, and shame.
    - *Examples*: *Christianity is not a religion*, *threat of primitive Christianity*.
4. **Young Men Looking for a Better Model of Masculinity**
    - Joseph > bravado. Care > dominance.
    - *Examples*: *What Saint Joseph Teaches Me*, *just between me and ChatGPT*.
5. **Readers Put Off by Intellectual Elitism**
    - The Gospel is simple. No PhD required.
    - *Examples*: *The gospel is not sophisticated…*
6. **Outsiders and Nonconformists**
    - For misfits and wanderers who never quite fit.
    - *Examples*: *a note of encouragement*, *musings before bed with ChatGPT*.
7. **Those Wounded by Certain Theologies**
    - Rejects fear-based "believe or burn" teaching.
    - *Examples*: *my spiritual trainwreck*, *The Naked Gospel* sections.

In the end, Boyd Camak's writing is raw, vulnerable, and at times confrontational — but always with a purpose: to call readers into a deeper, freer, and more authentic walk with Christ. His work will feel like home to those who have been wandering, questioning, and hoping for something real.

Camak and Philosophical Pessimism–Why the Gospel Isn't a Nice-to-Have

Camak confronts pessimism head-on, asking why Easter isn't a tragedy given "the inherent misery of human existence." He voices classic pessimistic doubts — better never to be born, worldly pursuits as empty distractions, and even calling God's plan "a big screw up." He recognizes the pervasiveness of suffering ("hell in everyday life") and concedes that religion often functions as an outdated coping mechanism.

Yet he refuses to end in despair. His way forward is a radical surrender — accepting powerlessness, embracing absurdity and the crucifixion — while anchoring hope not in human effort but in God's incomprehensible resurrection power. He insists that only Christ's

transformative fire can destroy the “death drive” and that truth-telling about suffering is the first resistance. Rejecting superficial optimism and shallow religiosity, he advocates a cruciform life marked by bleeding prayer, radical contentment, and peace rooted in God’s provision, even amid chaos.

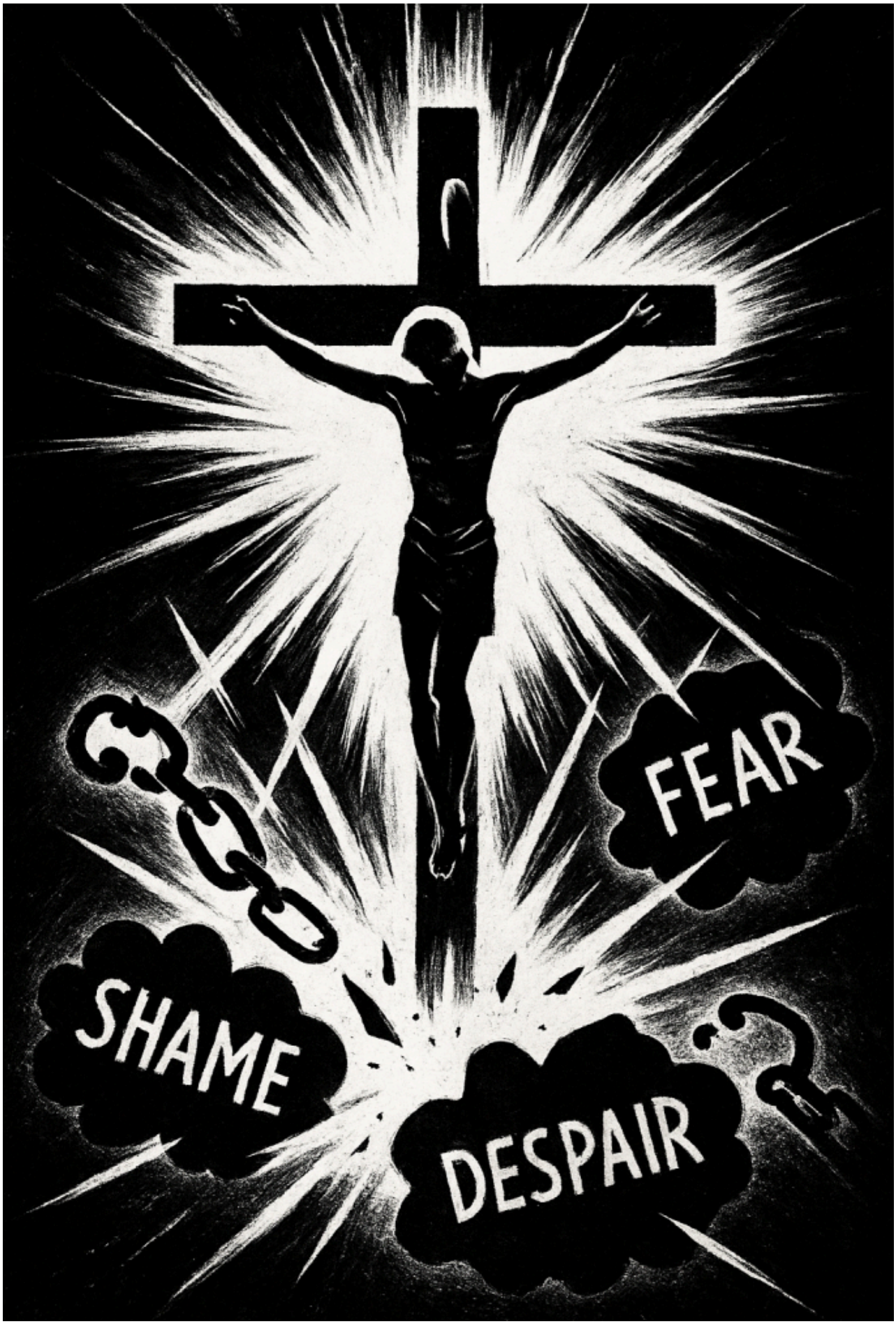
For reflection: Lev Shestov’s “anti-philosophy” has been described as the intellectual equivalent of Jesus turning over the tables — rejecting systems in favor of a divine logic rooted in fidelity, descent, and mystery, rather than visibility, success, or clarity. How does this “anti-systematic” stance connect with the essence of Christ’s message?

A More Formal Summary (courtesy of AI)

Boyd Camak writes from a “small-o orthodox” Christian perspective, rooted in the Nicene Creed and the historic faith of the Church. His work emphasizes the centrality of Christ and the Cross, God’s unconditional love, and the transforming power of suffering.

- **Grounded in Classic Convictions** — anchored in the mystery of the Incarnation and the Nicene Creed. Draws on Catholic, Orthodox, and Protestant voices; resists sectarianism.
- **Writing with Candor** — unvarnished style; provocative but never shallow; challenging easy assumptions.
- **A Faith that Confronts and Heals** — the Cross as reality, not just doctrine; suffering as the place of God’s radical solidarity with humanity.

The result is a presentation of Christianity that is honest, unflinching, and deeply rooted in tradition, yet accessible to those searching for faith that speaks to the real conditions of human life.


FEAR
SHAME
DESPAIR

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